

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 124768

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ORIGIN AF-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY:AF/E:ESHIPPY

APPROVED BY:AF/E:WBCOOTE

EUR/WE:WHMANGER

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O 291427Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 124768

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO SECSTATE INFO KINSHASA

BUJUMBURA BRUSSELS NAIROBI BUKAVU USIA WASHDC DTG O R 261810Z MAY 75

FM DAR ES SALAAM

QUOTE

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 1707

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH AND HUNTER)

USIA FOR IBS, IPS; NAIROBI ALSO FOR VOA

SUBJECT: THREE KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT REJECTS DEMANDS

1. AT 1500 GMT MAY 26 TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON DEMANDS MADE BY KIDNAPPERS. STATEMENT RELEASED IN SWAHILI LANGUAGE; FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION:

2. QUOTE: THE DEMANDS OF THE KIDNAPPERS OF THE FOUR STUDENTS WHO WERE KIDNAPPED FROM THE GOMBE GAME PRESERVE REACHED THE HANDS OF THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY (MAY 25). THESE DEMANDS WERE BROUGHT BY ONE OF THE STUDENTS, BARBARA SMUTS UNCLASSIFIED

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WHO EXPLAINED THAT SHE WAS SENT BY THE BANDITS FROM THEIR

CAMP IN ZAIRE.

THESE BANDITS, CALLING THEMSELVES THE PEOPLE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF THE CONGO, DEMAND THE FOLLOWING:

1. THE RELEASE OF WHAT THEY CALL THEIR MEN WHO HAVE BEEN PUT IN PRISON, INCLUDING G. YUMBU AND S. KILENGA, "MEMBER OF THE "REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE" AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE" OF THE "PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF THE CONGO".
2. THE PAYMENT OF 200,000 POUNDS STERLING.
3. MILITARY MATERIAL OF VARIOUS SORTS (CANNONS AND RIFLES) AS WELL AS BULLETS IN THE QUANTITY OF A NUMBER OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETELY REFUSED ALL THESE DEMANDS. CONCERNING THE FIRST DEMAND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN THE FOLLOWING: AS IS KNOWN, IN TANZANIA THERE ARE MANY REFUGEES FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES. THE POLICY OF TANZANIA CONCERNING REFUGEES IS KNOWN VERY CLEARLY, IT IS NOT TO ALLOW REFUGEES FROM NEIGHBOURING SELF-GOVERNING COUNTRIES TO ENGAGE IN THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES HERE. AT THE SAME TIME IT IS OUR POLICY NOT TO RETURN REFUGEES TO THEIR COUNTRIES UNLESS THEY THEMSELVES WANT IT AND AGREE.

FROM TIME TO TIME THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM SOME OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES CONCERNING VARIOUS REFUGEES. THE GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATES THE TRUTH OF THESE COMPLAINTS, AND DURING THIS INVESTIGATION THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTS THE PEOPLE WHO ARE THUS DOUBTED OR COMPLAINED ABOUT. THIS WAS FIRST DEMAND.

IT WILL BE REMEMBERED THAT ON APRIL 26 OF THIS YEAR THE GOVERNMENT RELEASED VARIOUS PEOPLE FROM JAIL. AMONG THOSE RELEASED WERE THOSE NAMED IN THE FIRST DEMAND. THE PROCEDURE FOR RELEASING FROM JAIL TOOK A WHILE, AND IN FACT WAS ONLY COMPLETED VERY RECENTLY, ALL WERE FREED, INCLUDING B. KILENGA. SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY LEFT TANZANIA.

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BUT YESTERDAY, WHEN PRESIDENT NYERERE RECEIVED NEWS OF THE DEMANDS OF THESE BANDITS, HE DECIDED THAT THEY SHOULD BE SEIZED: THEY HAVE BEEN SEIZED: AND IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE THEM. THE GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA WISHES TO INSIST THAT THE MEN WHOSE RELEASE WAS DEMANDED HAD ALREADY BEEN FREED, BUT THE DEMAND BY MEANS OF BANDITRY HAS CAUSED THOSE WHO HAD NOT YET LEFT TANZANIA TO BE SIEZED ONCE AGAIN. UNQUOTE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAY 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE124768
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:ESHIPPY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750188-0158
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975058/aaaaahhl.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 DEC 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREE KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT REJECTS DEMANDS
TAGS: CASC, PINS, US, TZ, (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEVE), (HUNTER, CARRIE)
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006